

2015 EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY OVERVIEW

Study Item	Summary of Committee Review and Conclusion	Committee Bill Opened	2016 GS Outcome
State education governance	Considered draft legislation, “ State Education Governance Revisions ,” which creates a hybrid model for selecting State Board of Education members, including four members elected in nonpartisan elections, four members elected in partisan elections, and five members appointed by the governor	None	
Educator professional development	Received presentations on the history of educator professional learning (EPL), best practices in EPL, and school district experiences with EPL. Discussed funding options for EPL and the benefits and constraints of these funding options	“ Grants for Educator Professional Learning ” Requires the State Board of Education to establish a professional learning grant program	Bill did not pass
Student assessment requirements	Discussed the role of assessments, state and federal assessment requirements, the amount of time students spend taking assessments, how educators use assessment to inform instruction, and efforts being undertaken as a result of 2015 General Session H.C.R. 7, “Concurrent Resolution Urging Development of Methods to Minimize Excessive Testing and its Negative Impacts on the Schoolchildren of Utah”	None	
Early grade reading and math proficiency	Discussed the programs the Legislature has put in place to address early grade reading and math proficiency, including Upstart, the School Readiness Initiative, Early Intervention Program, Kindergarten through Grade 3 Reading Improvement Program, and the Science Technology Engineering and Math Instructional Technology Program. Also received briefings on best practices and policy considerations from the Utah Foundation, Education Direction, and school districts that have had success improving early grade reading and math proficiency. Discussed alternatives for expanding optional extended-day kindergarten and optional prekindergarten for at-risk four-year-old children. Discussed possible bills related to optional extended-day kindergarten and prekindergarten.	“ Optional Enhanced Kindergarten Amendments ” modifies and enacts provisions regarding optional kindergarten for at-risk students “ Fees for Supplemental Hours ,” provides school districts and charter schools the authority to offer supplemental hours of instruction for kindergarten students, and to charge a fee for those hours “ High Quality School Readiness Program Expansion ” expands access to high quality school readiness programs for eligible students (<i>committee voted to support bill in concept but bill did not receive committee note</i>)	Bill did not pass Bill did not pass Bill passed
Alternatives to funding higher education buildings	Discussed a proposal to amend the current method for funding higher education capital projects by providing an ongoing appropriation, based on a formula, to each higher education institution	None	

Study Item	Summary of Committee Review and Conclusion	Committee Bill Opened	2016 GS Outcome
Review effects of performance funding	Discussed the implementation of performance funding for institutions of higher education in Utah, including the metrics used to determine funding allocations, and comparisons to national best practices	None	
Review of statutorily required reports	Per legislative management committee request, reviewed statutorily required reports with the goal of streamlining the reporting process and eliminating any reports that the committee no longer sees as necessary or of sufficient value.	“Agency Reporting Requirements” amends agency reporting requirements related to education, including repealing 7 reports required to be presented to the education interim committee	Bill passed
State Instructional Materials Commission – Sunset review	Conducted a sunset review of the State Instructional Materials Commission	“State Instructional Materials Commission Amendments” removes the State Instructional Materials Commission from the Sunset Act	Bill passed